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Box AF  
REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
PATENT  
2224-142P  
Done  
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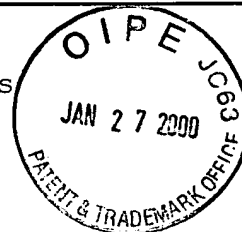
IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Yukiko NAKANISHI et al.  
SERIAL NO: 09/145,987 GROUP: 1623  
FILED: September 3, 1998 EXAMINER: WHITE, E.  
FOR: CELLULOSE ACETATE AND DOPE CONTAINING THE SAME

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Box AF

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231



January 27, 2000  
(First day  
after  
Government Snow  
Closure)

Sir:

In response to the Examiner's Office Action dated October 26, 1999, the due date for Response is January 26, 2000. The following amendments and remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

*Do not enter this  
After-Final  
Amendment*  
**IN THE CLAIMS:**  
*E.W.  
2/17/2000*

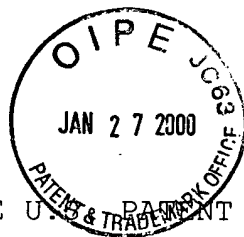
Please amend the claim as follows:

Claim 1 (Twice amended) A cellulose acetate obtained by the reaction of a cellulose, which may contain a hemicellulose, with acetic anhydride substantially free from polybasic carboxylic acid in the presence of a sulfuric acid catalyst and having at least one feature selected from the group consisting of:

(i) said cellulose acetate has carboxyl groups wherein at least part of the carboxyl groups are free carboxyl groups;

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REPLY UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
PATENT  
2224-142P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Yukiko NAKANISHI et al.

Appl. No.: 09/145,987

Group: 1623

Filed: September 3, 1998

Examiner: WHITE, E.

For: CELLULOSE ACETATE AND DOPE CONTAINING  
THE SAME

FEB 02 2000  
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

LARGE ENTITY TRANSMITTAL FORM

**Box AF**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

January 27, 2000  
(First day after  
Government Snow  
Closure)

Sir:

Transmitted herewith is an amendment in the above-identified application.

☐ The enclosed document is being transmitted via the Certificate of Mailing provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.8.

☐ The enclosed document is being transmitted via facsimile.

The fee has been calculated as shown below:

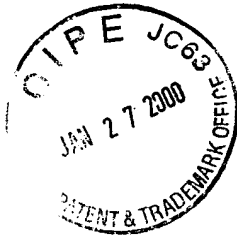
	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT		HIGHEST NUMBER PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR		PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDITIONAL FEE
TOTAL	23	-	23	=	0	\$18	\$0.00
INDEPENDENT	2	-	3	=	0	\$78	\$0.00
<input type="checkbox"/> FIRST PRESENTATION OF A MULTIPLE CLAIM						\$260	\$0.00
						TOTAL	\$0.00

- ☐ Petition for ( ) month(s) extension of time pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17 and 1.136(a). \$0.00 for the extension of time.
- ☒ No fee is required.
- ☐ A check in the amount of \$0.00 is enclosed.
- ☐ Please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2448 in the amount of \$0.00. This form is submitted in triplicate.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

BIRCH, STEWART, KOLASCH & BIRCH, LLP



By *Raymond C. Stewart* #37888  
For Raymond C. Stewart, #21,066

RCS/LeL/gh  
2224-142P

P.O. Box 747  
Falls Church, VA 22040-0747  
(703) 205-8000

ATTACHMENTS

(Rev. 01/08/2000)